

PATENT **DB****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Casas-Bejar et al Docket: P7109
Serial No.: 09/063,227 Group Art: 3762
Filed: April 20, 1998 Examiner: Gring
Title: MEDICAL ELECTRICAL LEADS AND INDWELLING CATHETERS
WITH ENHANCED BIOCOMPATIBILITY AND BIOSTABILITY

Honorable Commissioner
For Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

The following is submitted as a preliminary amendment in the continuing application submitted herewith. Please amend the above application as follows:

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Sub E
52
13. (Twice Amended) An indwelling catheter comprising:
an elongate body having a proximal end, a distal end, a tissue-contacting surface,
and at least one interior lumen therethrough; and
an external fitting coupled to the proximal end;
wherein the tissue-contacting surface of the elongate body comprises [an overcoating of]
a [non-porous] polymer in which a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is [incorporated] in
intimate contact, the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent being present in a concentration of
between .1% and 5% of the steroidal agent in the polymer (w/w). ?

Sub E
52
27. (Twice Amended) A method of modulating tissue encapsulation of an indwelling catheter comprising implanting the indwelling catheter into a patient, wherein the indwelling catheter comprises:

~~an elongate body having a proximal end, a distal end, a tissue-contacting surface,
and at least one interior lumen therethrough; and~~

~~an external fitting coupled to the proximal end;~~

~~wherein the tissue-contacting surface of the elongate body comprises an overcoating of a
[non-porous] polymer in which a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is incorporated at a
concentration of between .1% and 5% of the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent in the
polymer (w/w).~~

Sub E5
29. (Twice Amended) A method of modulating degradation of an indwelling catheter
comprising implanting the indwelling catheter into a patient, wherein the indwelling
catheter comprises:

~~an elongate body having a proximal end, a distal end, a tissue-contacting surface,
and at least one interior lumen therethrough; and~~

~~an external fitting coupled to the proximal end;~~

~~wherein the tissue-contacting surface of the elongate body comprises [an over-coating of]
a [non-porous] polymer in intimate contact with [which] a steroidal anti-inflammatory
agent [is incorporated] and wherein the solid weight of the steroidal anti-inflammatory
agent is between .1% and 5% of the total solid combined weight of the polymer and the
steroidal anti-inflammatory agent.~~

Sub E6
33. (Twice Amended) A method of making an indwelling catheter comprising:

~~providing an elongate body having a proximal end, a distal end, a tissue-
contacting surface, and at least one interior lumen therethrough; wherein the tissue-
contacting surface comprises an overcoat of a polymer in which a steroidal anti-
inflammatory agent is incorporated at a concentration of between .1% and 5% of the
steroidal anti-inflammatory agent in the polymer (w/w); and~~

~~coupling an external fitting to the proximal end of the elongate body.~~